

April 17, 2025

"A brief week, a bleak close"

The Colombo bourse witnessed a volatile trading session with the ASPI sharply declining in the early hours followed by gradual recovery. The ASPI remained broadly flat, reporting a 9-point drop, closing at 15,617. Investor participation remained subdued, mirroring the previous session, amid seasonal activity, with both retail and HNW segments showing limited engagement. SAMP, HNB, DFCC, MELS and LOLC emerged as the top negative contributors to the index. Specific counters within the Diversified Financials sector, including COCR and CFIN, attracted notable positive sentiment. Following the announcement of VAT exemptions on dairy products, investor focus pivoted to LMF and CCS, driving renewed momentum in both counters. The turnover stood at LKR 841.2Mn, marking a 68.2% decrease from the monthly average of LKR 2.6Bn. The Food, Beverage & Tobacco sector was the most significant contributor to the turnover with a 22% share. followed by the Banking, and the Diversified Financials sectors jointly contributing 35%. Foreign investors remained net sellers, with a net outflow of LKR 2.1Mn.

